

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for providing control over transactions, comprising:

prompting a primary user to input financial notification data, said financial notification data operable for defining transaction controls associated with a secondary user;

receiving and storing said financial notification data;

receiving data relating to a financial transaction from a point of sale, said data associated with said secondary user;

retrieving financial notification data related to said financial transaction; and

sending a notification to said point of sale based upon said data relating to said financial transaction.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said financial notification data specify conditions for performing at least one of:

approving a request to execute said financial transaction;

denying a request to execute said financial transaction;

issuing a notification to said primary user in response to receiving a request to execute said financial transaction;

confirming an identity of said secondary user before approving said financial transaction; and

suspending future financial transaction activities of said secondary user.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said financial notification data comprise a spending type, said spending type including at least one of:

a type of transaction;

a listing of items or services associated with said transaction;

a type of merchant;

a time of day; and

a location type.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein said spending type further comprises a spending or usage limit.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said notification is presented via at least one of:

a point of sale terminal;

a transaction receipt;

a computer screen;

a telephone;

postal mail;

a messaging application; and

an online service.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said notification comprises at least one of:

an account balance;

an account shut-off;

a denial of a request to execute said financial transaction;

a request for an additional authorization code; and

a request to check an identification of said secondary user.

7. A system for providing control over transactions, comprising:

a means for prompting a primary user to input financial notification data, said financial notification data operable for defining transaction controls associated with a secondary user;

a means for receiving and storing said financial notification data;

a means for receiving data relating to a financial transaction from a point of sale, said data associated with said secondary user;

a means for retrieving financial notification data related to said financial transaction; and

a means for sending a notification to said point of sale based upon said data relating to said financial transaction.

8. The system of claim 7, wherein said financial notification data specify conditions for performing at least one of:

approving a request to execute said financial transaction;

denying a request to execute said financial transaction;

issuing a notification to said primary user in response to receiving a request to execute said financial transaction;

confirming an identity of said secondary user before approving said financial transaction; and

suspending future financial transaction activities of said secondary user.

9. The system of claim 7, wherein said financial notification data comprise a spending type, said spending type including at least one of:

a type of transaction;

a type of good or service;

a type of merchant;

a time of day; and

a location type.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein said spending type further comprises a spending limit.

11. The system of claim 7, wherein said notification is presented via at least one of:

- a point of sale terminal;
- a transaction receipt;
- a computer screen;
- a telephone;
- postal mail;
- a messaging application; and
- an online service.

12. The system of claim 7, wherein said notification comprises at least one of:

- an account balance;
- an account shut-off;
- a denial of a request to execute said financial transaction; and
- a request to check an identification of said secondary user.

13. A database for providing control over transactions, said database storing financial notification data comprising:

an account identification;

a spending type including at least one of:

a type of purchase;

a type of merchant;

a time of day; and

a location type.

14. The database of claim 13, wherein said spending type further comprises a spending limit.

15. A storage medium encoded with machine-readable computer program code for providing control over transactions, said storage medium including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method, comprising:

prompting a primary user to input financial notification data, said financial notification data operable for defining transaction controls associated with a secondary user;

receiving and storing said financial notification data;

receiving data relating to a financial transaction from a point of sale, said data associated with said secondary user;

retrieving financial notification data related to said financial transaction; and

sending a notification to said point of sale based upon said data relating to said financial transaction.

16. The storage medium of claim 15, wherein said financial notification data specify conditions for performing at least one of:

approving a request to execute said financial transaction;

denying a request to execute said financial transaction;

issuing a notification to said primary user in response to receiving a request to execute said financial transaction;

confirming an identity of said secondary user before approving said financial transaction; and

suspending future financial transaction activities of said secondary user.

17. The storage medium of claim 15, wherein said financial notification data comprise a spending type, said spending type including at least one of:

a type of transaction;

a listing of items or services associated with said transaction;

a type of merchant;

a time of day; and

a location type.

18. The storage medium of claim 17, wherein said spending type further comprises a spending or usage limit.

19. The storage medium of claim 15, wherein said notification is presented via at least one of:

a point of sale terminal;

a transaction receipt;

a computer screen;

a telephone;

postal mail;

a messaging application; and

an online service.



20. The storage medium of claim 15, wherein said notification comprises at least one of:

an account balance;

an account shut-off;

a request for an additional authorization code;

a denial of a request to execute said financial transaction; and

a request to check an identification of said secondary user.